(b) The Government have constituted a Committee of experts to examine formulations moving in the market from the angle of safety, efficacy and rationality in the context of present knowledge. This is, however, a continuous process. As a result of this exercise, Government have so far banned 43 categories of formulations.

Death of Children Due to Heart Ailments

884. DR. RATNAKAR PANDEY : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that according to WHO statistics at least 60,000 kids die of heart ailments every year in the world ;

(b) what is the number of kids who die in India of such heart ailments every year and what is their percentage of the world-figures ; and

(c) the schemes under operation to prevent such deaths in India and the annual cost thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) According to the World Health Organisation annual mortality due to rheumatic heart disease, thought underreported, is put at 60,000.

(b) No epidemiological study has been done so far regarding the mortality among children due to heart ailments in India.

(c) At present there is no such scheme in operation. However, necessary facilities for treatment of heart ailments are available in most of the major hospitals in the country.

Population Growth

885. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have disallowed the target of 1.2 population growth rate by year 2000 under the National Health Policy.

(b) what is the status of this target ;

(c) whether this target of population growth is likly to be achieved under various family welfare programmes under implementation by year 2000 ; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) to (d) The National Health Policy (1983) has, *inter-alia*, laid down a goal of achieving the annual population growth rate of 1.2% by the year 2000 AD. Based on the latest provisional estimates of Birth and Death rates available for the year 1990 from the Sample Registration System of the Registrar General of India, the Natural Growth Rate works out to 2.03%. The Growth Rate has been remaining higher due to relatively steeper decline in Death Rate without commensurate decline in Birth Rate. Keeping in view the prevailing trends it has been recognised by the Planning Commission that the goal set for growth rate may not be achievable by 2000 AD. This is essentially due to prevailing high Birth Rate levels in some of the major States, the reasons for which are largely attributable to strong son preference, low female literacy rate, low age at marriage for females, high Infant Mortality Rate, lack of community participation, inadequacies in the quality and outreach of services, inadequacy of resources, lesser coverage of younger age couples with high fertility potential etc.

Health Care in Delhi

886. CHOWDHRY HARI SINGH : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a new report which appeared in the "Hindustan Times" dated April 5, 1992 under the caption "Shocking neglect of health care in Delhi" ; and

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to improve the situation ?